AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Previously Presented) A data management apparatus that manages data files, comprising:

a storage unit that stores folders, existing data files and keywords assigned to each existing data file;

an input unit by which a user enters an instruction to move a new data file to a folder; and

a processing unit that extracts the keywords assigned to the existing data files in the folder and assigns the extracted keywords to the new data file in response to the instruction.

2.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a name of the data file includes an extension showing the nature of the file.

3.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said processing unit extracts keywords only from existing data files having the same extension as the new data file.

4.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said processing unit counts the number of files to which each of the extracted keywords is added.

5.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said processing unit assigns extracted keywords to the new data file in accordance with the count number, starting with the extracted keyword having the highest count.

6.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said processing unit adds the keywords extracted from the existing data files to keywords which are already assigned to the new data files.

7.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said processing unit assigns the keywords extracted from the existing data files to the new data file after deleting keywords which are already assigned to the new data file.

8.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said processing unit selects whether or not keywords which are already assigned to the new data file are deleted on the basis of the instruction inputted by said input unit.

9.   (Previously Presented) The data management apparatus according to Claim 1 further comprising an interface that receives the new data file.

10.   (Currently Amended) A data management method that manages data files, comprising the steps of:

storing a new data file in a storage unit;

receiving an instruction to move the new data file to a folder;

extracting keywords assigned to existing data files in the folder in response to the received instruction; and

automatically assigning the extracted keywords to the new data file in response to the received instruction.

11.   (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable medium; and

computer program contained on said computer-readable medium for performing the steps of:

storing a new data file in a storage unit,

receiving an instruction to move the new data file to a folder,

extracting keywords assigned to existing data files in the folder in response to the received instruction, and

assigning the extracted keywords to the new data file.